

Message Text

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SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR JOHNSONS STATEMENT OF FEBRUARY 10, 1975

(SALT TWO-511)

THE FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR JOHNSON AT
THE SALT TWO MEETING OF FEBRUARY 10, 1975.

STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR JOHNSON
FEBRUARY 10, 1975

MR MINISTER:

I

AS I HAVE INDICATED PREVIOUSLY, TODAY I WILL SET FORTH SOME OF
OUR VIEWS ON THE STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS WHICH WILL BE
INCLUDED IN THE 2400 AGGREGATE NUMBER OF THE NEW AGREEMENT,
TOGETHER WITH OUR THOUGHTS REGARDING SOME OF THE DEFINITIONS
THAT SHOULD BE INCORPORATED IN THE NEW AGREEMENT.
THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT SHOULD BE CLEAR,
PRECISE AND UNAMBIGUOUS. SINCE THE NEW AGREEMENT WILL BE MORE
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COMPREHENSIVE THAN THE INTERIM AGREEMENT, IT WILL REQUIRE

ADDITIONAL AND MORE DETAILED PROVISIONS, INCLUDING DEFINITIONS.

II

AS RECORDED IN THE AIDE MEMOIRE OF DECEMBER 10, 1974, THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT WILL PROVIDE FOR EACH OF THE SIDES TO HAVE AN AGGREGATE NUMBER OF DELIVERY VEHICLES OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS NOT TO EXCEED 2400. THIS AGGREGATE NUMBER INCLUDES SEVERAL DIFFERENT TYPES OF ARMS.

THE NEW AGREEMENT WILL LIMIT ICBM AND SLBM LAUNCHERS. WE HAVE HAD CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE IN USING THESE TERMS AND BY BUILDING ON THIS EXPERIENCE, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO WORK OUT MUTUALLY AGREEABLE DEFINITIONS FOR THEIR INCLUSION IN THE NEW AGREEMENT.

THE NEW AGREEMENT WILL LIMIT HEAVY BOMBERS FOR THE FIRST TIME BY INCLUDING THEM IN THE 2400 AGGREGATE NUMBER. FORTUANTELY, HERE TOO WE HAVE SOME NEGOTIATING HISTORY ON WHICH TO BUILD. DURING THE DISCUSSIONS IN SALT I THE TWO DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED SIMILAR VIEWS AS TO WHICH AIRCRAFT WOULD BE THE US B-52, THE SOVIET TUPOLEV 95 AND THE MYASISHCHEV TYPES. (I UNDERSTAND THAT TUPOLEV 95 AND MYASISHCHEV ARE THE SOVIET DESIGNATIONS FOR THE AIRCRAFT WHICH WE CALL BEAR AND BISON.) SUBSEQUENTLY, EACH SIDE HAS DEVELOPED OR INTRODUCED NEW AIRCRAFT WITH CAPABILITIES COMPARABLE TO THOSE AIRCRAFT WHICH I HAVE JUST NAMED. THESE NEW AIRCRAFT ARE THE B-1 ON THE US SIDE AND THE TUPOLEV VARIABLE GEOMETRY WING AIRCRAFT ON THE SOVIET SIDE. (THE SOVIET AIRCRAFT TO WHICH I AM REFERRING IS THAT WHICH WE CALL THE BACKFIRE.) THESE FIVE TYPES ARE, IN THE US VIEW, THE CURRENT AIRCRAFT TO BE CONSIDERED AS HEAVY BOMBER TYPES AND, THEREFORE, TO BE INCLUDED IN THE AGGREGATE NUMBER. IN ADDITION TO ICBM AND SLBM LAUNCHERS AND HEAVY BOMBERS, THE AGGREGATE NUMBER OF THE NEW AGREEMENT WILL ALSO INCLUDED CERTAIN TYPES OF AIR TO SURFACE MISSILES ON BOMBERS. BASED ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE AIDE MEMOIRE, IT IS THE US UNDERSTANDING THAT WHEN BOMBERS ARE EQUIPPED WITH BALLISTIC AIR TO SURFACE MISSILES WITH A RANGE EXCEEDING 600 KILOMETERS, EACH OF SUCH BALLISTIC MISSILES WILL BE COUNTED AS ONE DELIVERY VEHICLE IN THE AGGREGATE NUMBER IN THE NEW AGREEMENT.

THE AIDE MEMOIRE ALSO STATES THAT ARTICLES I AND II OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO A NEW AGREEMENT. IN THE CONTEXT OF ARTICLE II, WE CONSIDER THAT A HEAVY ICBM

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SHOULD BE PRECISELY DEFINED AND, FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS AGREEMENT, WE BELIEVE IT MUST BE CONSIDERED AS AN ICBM WHICH HAS A VOLUME OR THROW WEIGHT GREATER THAN THE LARGEST NON- HEAVY ICBM DEPLOYED ON EITHER SIDE ON THE DATE OF SIGNATURE OF THE AGREEMENT.

ADDITIONALLY, WE NOTE THAT THE AIDE MEMOIRE STATES THAT THE AGREED INTERPRETATION AND COMMON UNDERSTANDING DATED MAY 26, 1972 RELATING TO LIMITATIONS ON INCREASES IN THE

DIMENSIONS OF LAND BASED ICBM LAUNCHERS WILL ALSO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE NEW AGREEMENT.

III

MR MINISTER, I WILL BE INTERESTED IN HEARING YOUR OBSERVATIONS ON THESE MATTERS AND ILBELIEVE THAT THIS IS ALSO AN AREA IN WHICH WORKING GROUPS CAN, AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME, BE OF ASSISTANCE AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF OUR TASK. AS I MENTIONED AT THE OUTSET, I BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR BOTH SIDES TO DEVELOP CLEAR UNDERSTANDINGS AND AGREED DEFINITIONS FOR ICLUSION IN THE NEW AGREEMENT. AT OUR NEXT MEETING, I HOPE TO PRESENT FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION FURTHER OBSERVATIONS ON THESE AND OTHER MATTERS. JOHNSON

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